Dues to be paid by National Textile Corporation

2423. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Textile Corporation is to pay 9.17 crore to the State Government of Maharashtra and the dues have not been paid so far;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof alongwith the reasons for delay in payment; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken by Government to ensure that NIC honours its financial commitments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Slump in Jute Industry

2424. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a slump in demand for jute products specially sackings has effected (production in jute mills which may lead to closure of some jute mills;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken by Government to see that these mills are not closed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) There has been a fall in the production of jute goods due to reduction in demand on account of decline in prices of synthetic substi. tutes, erosion of erstwhile USSR market etc. However, the demand for jute goods is likely to pick up to meet the requirements of packaging of foodgrains during the ensuring Rabi Season

(c) Government have provided several incentives to revitalize the jute industry including enactment of Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 creation of Jute Modernisation Fund, establishment of Special Jute Development Fund, grant of fiscal, financial and marketing support etc.

Export of Textile products to USA

2425. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether export of textiles products to the U.S.A. is on the increase;

(b) if so, the details of exports for the last five years alongwith the targets of export fixed for the next five years;

(c) the share of textiles exported from Maharashtra during the said period; and

(d) what fresh measures are being taken or proposed to be taken to boost export of textiles to U.S.A. and other foreign markets to overcome stiff competition.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Total export of Textiles and clothing to the USA (excluding Coir,